

From: Christopher Ward
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/19/02 9:48pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

13775 Southwest 23rd Street
Beaverton, OR 97008-5064

Attorney General John Ashcroft
US Department of Justice, 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530-0001

January 17, 2002

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

I was relieved to hear that the Justice Department has finally put an end to its persecution of Microsoft. Unfortunately, Microsoft had to give up a lot in order to get a settlement in the matter. I hope that you will further publicize the terms so that everyone can know just how much they are giving up.

Microsoft giving up the access that it has promised to its competitors, is like Coke giving Pepsi the recipes for all its drinks. What's more, Microsoft has promised not to retaliate against their competitors when they use that code to further their own products.

With this and many other hampering provisions in the settlement, I can't see how anyone would be unsatisfied with what's on the table. Let's hurry up and put this issue to rest. There are certainly more important issues for the Justice Department to deal with right now.

Sincerely,
Christopher Ward